

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

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NSC-07 DODE-00 DRC-01 INRE-00 /125 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4797

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1622

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/80

TAGS: EFIN, MARR, MILI, GW, XT, NATO

SUBJ: OFFSET NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRG

REF: A) STATE 58896; B) USNATO 1586

1. I APPRECIATE THAT FULL BRIEFING TO THE COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE OF U.S.-FRG OFFSET AGREEMENT WOULD BE PREMATURE UNTIL IT IS FORMALLY AGREED TO BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS. WE ARE, THEREFORE, SEEKING POSTPONEMENT PLACING SUBJECT ON NAC AGENDA. HOWEVER, AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE MY FRG COLLEAGUES AND U.S. MUST BE IN A POSITION TO BRIEF THE COUNCIL ON THE AGREEMENT REACHED. OUR BRIEFING SHOULD BE BASED ON AN AGREED U.S.-FRG STATEMENT IN SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO BE HELPFUL TO OTHER ALLIES WHO ARE EXPECTED TO HELP OFFSET U.S. MILITARY EXPENDITURES IN EUROPE. AMBASSADOR KRAPF IS MAKING SIMILAR RECOMMENDATION TO BONN.

2. IF FORMAL AGREEMENT OF THE BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT IS NOT REACHED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, I RECOMMEND THAT SOME AGREED INTERIM STATEMENT BE WORKED OUT FOR PRESENTATION TO NAC. THE CONCEPT OF CONSULTATION, TO WHICH WE ATTACH SUCH IMPORTANCE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH EUROPE, REQUIRES THAT WE PROVIDE OUR ALLIES MORE INFORMATION ON THIS MAJOR COMPONENT OF BURDENSARING THAN THEY
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ARE LEARNING FROM THE AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PRESS.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, AT PERMREPS' LUNCH MARCH 26, UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED I PLAN AFTER CONSULTING WITH AMBASSADOR KRAPF, TO

DRAWN ON REF A AND STATE: BEGIN QTE THE U.S. AND FRG HAVE
AGREED IN PRINCIPLE ON A BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT TO
OFFSET EXPENDITURES FOR STATIONING U.S. FORCES IN THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. HOWEVER, THE AGREEMENT THUS FAR ARRIVED
AT STILL REQUIRES FURTHER ACTION BY THE U.S. AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS.
AS SOON AS A FORMAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED THE COUNCIL WILL BE
BRIEFED ON ITS CONTENTS ENDQTE. RUMSFELD

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